Chapter I

Multiservice Brevity Codes

ABORT Directive call to cease

action/attack/event/mission.

ACTION Directive call to initiate a briefed

attack sequence or maneuver.

(system) ACTIVE Referenced emitter is radiating at the (location/direction)

stated location or along the stated

bearing.

ADD Directive call to add a specific (system)

or (EOB category) to search (system/category)

responsibilities.

A.JAX Landing zone/pickup zone is clear of

threats.

ALARM Directive/informative call indicating

the termination of EMCON

procedures. Opposite of SNOOZE.

Link-11/TADIL A. ALLIGATOR

Request for/confirmation of bearing ALPHA CHECK

and range from aircraft to described

point.

ANCHOR(ED) (location)

1. Directive call to orbit about a

specific point.

2. Informative call to indicate a turning engagement at a specific

location.

3. Refueling track flown by tanker.

ANGELS Height of friendly aircraft in thousands

of feet from mean sea level (MSL).

ARIZONA No ARM ordnance remaining.

ARM Element resulting from target

maneuvers exceeding GROUP criteria.

AS FRAGGED Unit or element will be performing

exactly as stated by the air tasking

order (ATO).

ATTACK(ING) Directive/informative call indicating

strike aircraft are committed to air-tosurface delivery on a specific ground

target.

AUTHENTICATE To request or provide a response to a

coded challenge.

AUTOCAT Any communications relay using

automatic retransmissions.

(weapon) AWAY Release/launch of specified weapon.

AZIMUTH A picture label describing two

GROUPs separated laterally.

BANDIT An aircraft identified as an enemy in

accordance with (IAW) theater ID criteria. The term does not necessarily imply direction or authority to engage.

BANZAI Informative/directive call to execute

launch and decide tactics.

BASE (+/- Number) Reference number used to indicate

such information as headings, altitude,

fuels, etc.

BEAD WINDOW Last transmission potentially disclosed

unauthorized information.

BEAM Contact stabilized within 70 to 110

(Cardinal Direction) degrees of aspect.

(system) BENT System indicated is inoperative.

BINGO Fuel state needed for recovery.

BIRD Friendly surface-to-air missile (SAM).

BIRD(S) AFFIRM Surface-to-Air informative call

indicating a friendly unit is able and prepared to engage a specified target with SAMs. Opposite of BIRD(S)

NEGAT.

BIRD(S) NEGATE Surface-to-Air informative call

indicating a friendly unit is unable to engage a specified target with SAMs.

Opposite of BIRD(S) AFFIRM.

BIRDDOG Directive call to maintain

contact/targeting information on a

maritime surface contact.

BITTERSWEET Notification of possible blue-on-blue

(fratricide) or blue-on-neutral situation

relative to a designated track or

friendly aircraft.

BLIND No visual contact with friendly

aircraft/ground position. Opposite of

VISUAL.

BLOW THROUGH Directive/informative call that aircraft

will continue straight ahead at the merge and not become ANCHORED

with target(s).

BOGEY A radar or visual air contact whose

identity is unknown.

BOGEY DOPE Request for target information as

requested or for closest group in BRAA

(with appropriate fill-ins).

BOX A picture label describing four distinct

GROUPs with two in front and two behind in a square or offset square

orientation.

BRAA 1. Following information is in a tactical

control format providing target bearing, range, altitude, and aspect, relative to the specified friendly

aircraft.

2. Request/directive call to switch to

tactical BRAA control format.

BRACKET Directive call to maneuver to a position (direction) on opposing sides, either laterally or

vertically from the target.

BREAK (Direction) Directive call to perform an immediate

maximum performance 180 degree turn (or as directed) in the indicated direction. Assumes a defensive

situation.

BREAK AWAY Tanker or receiver call indicating

immediate vertical and nose/tail separation between tanker and

receiver is required.

BREVITY Directive call indicating the radio

frequency is becoming saturated, degraded or jammed and briefer transmissions must follow.

BROADCAST Request/directive call to switch to

broadcast control format.

BROKE LOCK Advisory call regarding loss of radar/IR

lock-on.

BRUISER Friendly air launched anti-ship

missile.

BUDDY LOCK Locked to a known friendly aircraft.

Normally a response to a "SPIKED" or

"BUDDY SPIKE" call.

BUDDY SPIKE

(Posit/heading/alt)

Friendly aircraft air-to-air indication on radar warning receiver (RWR).

BUGOUT (Direction)

Separation from that particular engagement/attack/operation with no

intent to reengage/return.

BULLDOG Friendly surface/submarine launched

anti-ship missile.

BULLSEYE An established reference point from

which the position of an object can be

referenced.

BURN Informative call that Gated Laser

> Illuminator (GLINT) is being used to provide illumination. Typically employed by AC-130 to illuminate

surface points of interest.

BUSTER Directive call to fly at maximum

continuous speed (military power).

BUZZER Electronic communications jamming.

CANDYGRAM Informative call to aircraft that

> electronic warfare (EW) targeting information is available on a briefed

secure net.

CAP/CAPPING

air patrol at a specified location. (location)

2. Descriptive term for aircraft in a

1. Directive call to establish a combat

CAP.

CAPTURED Aircrew has acquired and is able to

> track a specified air-to-ground (A/G) target with an on-board sensor.

CEASE

A fire control order used to direct units ENGAGEMENT

to stop the firing sequence against a designated target. Guided missiles already in flight will continue to

intercept.

CEASE FIRE Discontinue firing/do not open fire.

Complete intercept if weapons are in

flight; continue to track.

CEASE LASER Aircraft-to-aircraft directive to stop

firing laser. Opposite of LASER ON.

CHAMPAGNE A picture label describing three

distinct GROUPs with two in front and

one behind.

CHATTERMARK Directive call to begin using briefed

radio procedures to counter communications jamming.

CHEAPSHOT AIM-120 missile data link terminated

between high and medium PRF active.

CHECK Turn (number) degrees left or right

(number, left/right) and maintain new heading.

CHECK FIRING (S/S) Directive call to cease firing

immediately.

CHERUBS Height of a friendly aircraft in

hundreds of feet AGL.

CHICKS Friendly aircraft.

CLEAN 1. No sensor information on non-

friendly group of interest.
2. No visible battle damage.

3. Aircraft not carrying external stores.

CLEAR(ED) Response to requested action is

authorized. No engaged/support roles

are assumed.

CLEARED HOT Ordnance release is authorized.

CLOAK Directive/informative call to switch

from normal/overt external lighting to covert NVD only compatible lighting.

CLOSING Decreasing in separation.

COLD

1. A descriptive/directive call to initiate a turn in the CAP away from the

anticipated threats.

2. Defined area is not expected to receive fire (enemy or friendly). 3. Intercept geometry will result in a

pass or roll out behind the target.

COLOR

(System/Position)

Request for information on a type (system) at stated location; implies a request for ambiguity resolution. May be used with IDM data message-

COLOR. DATA.

COMEBACK

(direction)

Directive call to reverse course.

COMEOFF (direction)

1. Directive call to maneuver as indicated to either regain mutual support or to deconflict flight paths. Implies both VISUAL and TALLY. 2. Directive call to maneuver or execute a specific instruction (e.g.,

COMEOFF DRY).

COMMIT

Directive call to intercept a GROUP of

interest.

COMPOSITION

Request for number of contacts within

a GROUP.

CONFETTI

Chaff lane or corridor.

CONS/CONNING

Descriptive term for nonfriendly

aircraft leaving contrails.

CONTACT 1. Sensor contact at the stated

position.

2. Acknowledges sighting of a specified reference point.

3. Individual radar return within a

GROUP or ARM.

CONTAINER Inner GROUP formation with four

contacts oriented in a square or offset

square.

CONTINUE Continue present maneuver, does not

imply a change in clearance to engage

or expend ordnance.

CONTINUE DRY Ordnance release not authorized.

COVER* Directive/Informative call to assign S/A

weapons or establish an A/A posture that will allow engagement of a specified track or threat if required.

CRANK F-Pole maneuver in the direction

(Direction) indicated; implies illuminating target

at radar GIMBAL limits.

CROSSING Descriptive term for when two

GROUPs initially separated in

azimuth decrease azimuth separation

to pass each other.

CUTOFF Request for, or directive to, intercept

using cutoff geometry.

CYCLOPS Any UAV.

DASH (#) Aircraft position within a flight. Use if

specific callsign is unknown.

DATA (object, Standby for IDM data message position) concerning object at stated location.

DEADEYE Informative call by an airborne laser

designator indicating the laser/IR

system is inoperative.

DECLARE Inquiry as to the identification of a

specified track(s), target(s), or

correlated GROUP.

DEEP Descriptive term used to indicate

> separation between the nearest and farthest GROUPs in range in a relative

formation, used to describe a

LADDER, VIC. CHAMPAGNE, BOX.

Speaker is under attack, engaged, DEFENSIVE

> maneuvering defensively, and unable to ensure deconfliction or mutual

support.

DEFENDING

Aircraft is in a defensive position and (direction) maneuvering with reference to a

surface-to-air threat.

Directive call to detect, identify, and DELOUSE

engage (if required) unknown aircraft

trailing friendly aircraft.

Directive call for the element to DEPLOY

maneuver to briefed positioning.

DETAILS Request for modified J-FIRE nine-line

> brief from Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS).

DIVERT Proceed to alternate mission/base.

DOLLY Link-4A/TADIL C. DRAG

(Cardinal Direction)

Contact aspect stabilized at 0-60 degrees angle from tail or 120-180

degrees angle from nose.

DROP(PING)

 Directive/informative call to stop monitoring a specified emitter/target and resume search responsibilities.
 Informative call that fighter has discontinued tracking responsibility.
 Remove the emitter/target from

tactical picture/track stores.

4. Directive call to remove a specific system or EOB category from search

responsibilities.

DUCK* Air Launched Decoy

(TALD/MALD/etc).

ECHELON (Direction)

Picture label/fill-in describing two GROUPs with one group displaced behind and to the side of the other

group.

ECHO Positive System M/Mode X (or

comparable system) reply.

EMPTY No emitters of interest detected.

ENGAGE A fire control order used to direct or

authorize units and/or weapon systems

to fire on a designated target.

Informative call from a fighter ENGAGED

> maneuvering with the intent to kill and used to establish support roles in the visual arena. Implies fighter is offensive/neutral with respect to the

nonfriendly aircraft.

Provides estimate of the size, range, **ESTIMATE**

height, or other parameter of a

specified contact; implies degradation.

EXTEND (ING)

Short-term maneuver to gain energy, distance, or separation, normally with (Direction)

the intent of reengaging.

EYEBALL 1. Fighter with primary visual

identification responsibility. 2. EO/IR/NVD acquisition of an

aircraft. Normally followed by number

of aircraft observed.

FADED Radar contact is (temporarily) lost on

nonfriendly air/surface contact and any

positional information given is

estimated.

FAST* Target speed is estimated to be 600 –

900 knots /mach 1 – 1.5 ground speed.

FATHER Shipboard TACAN station.

FEET WET/DRY Flying over water/land.

FENCE (IN/OUT) Set cockpit switches as appropriate

before entering/exiting the combat

area.

FLANK Contact aspect stabilized at 120 to 150 degrees angle from tail or 30 to 60 degrees angle from nose of aspect.

FLASH (System) Temporarily activate specified system for identification purposes

(IFF/afterburner/flare/chaff/etc.).

FLASHLIGHT Directive term for helicopter to turn on

IR floodlight (pointed at ground to aid visual acquisition by escort aircraft).

FLOAT Directive/informative call to expand

the formation laterally within visual limits to maintain radar contact or prepare for a defensive response.

FLOW (Direction) Directive call to fly stated heading.

FOX (Number) Simulated/actual launch of air-to-air

weapons.

ONE - semiactive radar-guided missile.

TWO - infrared-guided missile.

 $THREE\ -\ active\ radar-guided\ missile.$

FOX THREE/ (USAF) Simulated or actual launch of SECOND FOX 3 multiple active radar-guided missiles

on the same target.

FOX 3 (X) SHIP (USAF) Valid missile shot against (x) separate targets (assumes 1 missile description) per target).

FOX MIKE VHF/FM radio.

FRIENDLY A positively identified friendly aircraft,

ship, or ground position.

FURBALL Descriptive/informative call indicating

known nonfriendly aircraft and FRIENDLY aircraft are in close proximity to each other. Can be response to a DECLARE request.

GADGET Radar or emitter equipment.

GATE Directive/informative call to fly as

quickly as possible, using after-

burner/max power.

GENIE (USAF) Emitter is employing

electronic protection measures.

GIMBAL Radar target is approaching azimuth

(w/Direction) or elevation limits.

GO ACTIVE Go to briefed frequency agile net.

GO CLEAR Use unencrypted voice

communications.

DEGOGGLE

GOGGLE/

Directive call to put on/take off NVDs.

GOGGLES ON/OFF Informative call that NVDs are on/off.

GORILLA Large force of indeterminate numbers

and formation.

GO SECURE Use encrypted voice communications.

GRANDSLAM All HOSTILE aircraft of a designated

track (or against which a mission was

tasked) are shot down.

GREEN (Direction) Direction determined to be clearest of

enemy air-to-air activity.

GREYHOUND Friendly ground attack cruise missile

(e.g., TLAM).

GROUP Any number of air contacts within 3

NM in azimuth or range of each other.

GUNS Reference to gun engagement.

HANDSHAKE Link 16 Air Control NPG initiation

between air control unit and controlled

aircraft.

HARD (Direction) High-G, energy sustaining 180 degree

turn (or as directed) in the indicated

direction.

HEADS UP Alert of an activity of interest.

HEAVY* A GROUP (or PACKAGE) known to

contain three or more individual

entities.

HIGH* Contact is between 25,000 and 40,000

ft MSL.

HIT(S) 1. Momentary radar return(s).

2. (A/A) Indicates approximate target altitude (e.g., GROUP BULLSEYE

360/10, HITS 15 thousand).

3. (A/G) Weapons impact within lethal

distance.

HOLD DOWN Directive to key transmitter for DF

steer.

HOLD FIRE An emergency fire control order to stop

firing on a designated target, to include destruction of any missiles in-

flight.

HOLDING HANDS Aircraft in visual formation.

HOLLOW Data link message not received.

HOME PLATE Home airfield or ship.

HOOK Directive call to perform an in-place

LEFT/RIGHT 180 degree turn.

HOSTILE* A contact identified as enemy upon

which clearance to fire is authorized in

accordance with theater rules of

engagement.

NOTE: THE ABOVE USE OF HOSTILE IS USED AS A BREVITY TERM FOR AIR-TO-AIR AND AIR-TO-SURFACE ENGAGEMENTS AND SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE SAME TERM IN TADIL AND ROE.

HOT 1. A descriptive/directive call to initiate

a turn in the CAP toward the $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($

anticipated threats.

2. Defined area is expected to receive

fire (enemy or friendly).

3. Ordnance employment intended or

completed.

4. Contact aspect stabilized at 160-180

degrees angle from tail or 0 - 20

degrees angle from nose.

HOTDOG Informative/directive call that a

friendly aircraft is approaching or is at a specified standoff distance from the sovereign airspace of a nation (as defined by national boundaries or territorial sea and airspace). (COLOR may indicate additional standoff distance.) Follow briefed procedures.

HOTEL FOX HF radio.

HUSKY Informative call that the AIM-120 is

at HPRF active range.

ID 1. Directive call to identify the target.

2. Informative call that identification is accomplished, followed by type.

IDLE JSTARS call indicating vehicles are

stationary.

IN (Direction) 1. Informative call indicating a turn

toward a known threat.

2. Entering terminal phase of an airto-ground attack. Opposite of OFF.

IN PLACE Perform indicated maneuver

(direction) simultaneously.

INDIA Mode IV.

INTERROGATE Interrogate the designated contact of

the IFF mode indicated.

JACKAL Surveillance network participating

group (NPG) of Link 16/TADIL J.

JINK Directive call to perform an

unpredictable maneuver to negate a

tracking solution.

JOKER* Fuel state above BINGO at which

separation/bugout/event termination

should begin.

JUDY Aircrew has radar or visual contact on

the correct target, has taken control of

the intercept and only requires situation awareness information; Controller will minimize radio

transmissions.

KILL 1. Directive call to fire on designated

target.

2. In training, a fighter call to indicate

kill criteria has been fulfilled.

KNOCK IT OFF In training, a directive call to cease all

air combat maneuvers/attacks/

activities/exercises.

LADDER A picture label describing three or

more GROUPs separated in range.

LASER ON Directive call to start laser

designation.

LASING Informative call indicating that the

speaker is firing the laser.

LAST Command and control (C2) term that

provides the last contact altitude from a high fidelity source (fighter radar,

etc.).

LOWDOWN A request to provide tactical ground

information pertinent to the mission in

a digital bullseve format.

LEAD-TRAIL Inner GROUP formation of two

contacts separated in range.

LEAKER(S) Airborne threat has passed through a

defensive layer. Call should include

amplifying information.

Directive/informative call to maneuver LEAN (direction)

in a direction to avoid the threat.

Directive to turn on/off all exterior LIGHTS ON/OFF

lights.

Directive call for flight to turn all LIGHTBULB

position lights to bright.

LINE ABREAST Inner GROUP formation of two or

more contacts separated in azimuth.

1. (w/Group Label) Radar lock-on; LOCKED

SORT is not assumed.

2. (w/Position) Radar lock-on; correct

Launch of friendly antiradiation

targeting is not assumed.

LOW Contact altitude below 10.000 ft MSL.

MADDOG Visual AIM-120/AIM-54 launch.

(system/location) missile.

MAGNUM

Informative call that specified GROUP **MANEUVER** is maneuvering in azimuth, range, (AZIMUTH

/RANGE/ and/or altitude.

ALTITUDE)

MAPPING Multifunction radar in an A/G mode.

MARK 1. Used when aircraft passes over

pickup zone/landing zone (PZ/LZ)

team.

2. Directive term to record the location

of a ground point of interest.

MARKING Informative call indicating friendly

aircraft is leaving contrails.

MARSHAL(ING) Establish(ed) at a specific point.

MEDIUM* Contact altitude between 10,000 ft

MSL and 25,000 ft MSL.

MERGE(D) 1. Information that friendlies and

targets have arrived in the same visual

arena.

2. Informative call indicating radar

returns have come together.

MICKEY HAVE QUICK time-of-day (TOD)

signal.

MIDNIGHT Informative call advising that C2 radar

functions are unavailable due to degradation. Advisory information is still available. Opposite of SUNRISE.

MILLER TIME 1. (A-G) Informative call indicating

completion of air-to-ground ordnance delivery. Generally used by the last striker in conjunction with a pre-

coordinated egress plan.

2. (CSAR) Indicates survivor(s) are aboard recovery vehicle in Combat

Search and Rescue.

MONITOR Maintain radar awareness on specified

group.

MOTHER Parent ship.

MOVER(S) Unidentified surface vehicles(s) in

motion.

MUD Informative call Indicating RWR

(type/direction) ground threat displayed.

MUSIC Radar electronic deceptive jamming.

NAILS (direction) RWR indication of AI radar in search.

NAKED No RWR indications.

NEAR-FAR (USAF) Fighter term depicting a

radar-apparent description of two or more contacts within a GROUP

separated in range.

NEGATIVE Sensor information on a friendly CONTACT aircraft is lost. Termination of

aircraft is lost. Termination of CONTACT, track plotting is not

warranted.

NEW PICTURE Used by controller or aircrew when

tactical picture has changed.

Supersedes all previous calls and reestablishes picture for all players.

NO FACTOR Not a threat.

NO JOY Aircrew does not have visual contact

with the target/bandit/landmark.

Opposite of TALLY.

NOTCH(ING) Directive/informative call that an (direction) aircraft is in a defensive position and

maneuvering with reference to an air-

to-air threat.

OCCUPIED Ground equipment present at tasked

target location. Opposite of VACANT.

OFF (direction) Informative call indicating attack is

terminated and maneuvering to the

indicated direction.

OFFSET (direction) Directive/informative call indicating

maneuver in a specified direction with

reference to the target.

ON STATION Informative call that unit/aircraft has

reached assigned station.

OPENING Increasing in separation.

OUT (direction) Informative call indicating a turn to a

cold aspect relative to a known threat.

OUTLAW Informative call that a BOGEY has

met point of origin criteria for ROE.

PACKAGE Geographically isolated collection of

GROUPs.

PADLOCKED Informative call indicating aircrew

cannot take eyes off an aircraft, ground target, or surface position without risk

of losing TALLY/VISUAL.

PAINT(S) An interrogated group/radar contact

that is responding with any of the specified IFF/SIF modes and correct codes established for the ID criteria. PARROT IFF/SIF transponder.

PASSING Descriptive term for when two

GROUPs initially separated in range, decrease range separation and pass

each other.

PICTURE A request to provide air information

pertinent to the mission in a digital

bullseye format.

PIG(S) Friendly glide weapon (i.e., JSOW).

PIGEONS Magnetic bearing and range to

HOMEPLATE.

PITCH/ Directive call for fighter or flight to

PITCHBACK LEFT/RIGHT execute a nose-high heading reversal.

PINCE Threat maneuvering for a bracket

attack.

PITBULL 1. Informative call that the AIM-120 is

at MPRF active range.

2. Informative call that the AIM-54 is

at active range.

PLAYMATE Cooperating aircraft.

PLAYTIME Amount of time aircraft can remain on

station.

(freq) POGO (freq) Switch to communication channel

number preceding POGO. If unable to establish communications, switch to channel number following POGO. If no channel number follows POGO,

return to this channel.

POP 1. Starting climb for A/S attack.

2. Max performance climb out of low-

altitude structure.

POPEYE Flying in clouds or area of reduced

visibility.

POP-UP Informative call of a GROUP that has

suddenly appeared inside of meld/No

New Picture/briefed range.

POSIT Request for friendly position; response

in terms of a geographic landmark or

off a common reference point.

POST HOLE Rapid descending spiral.

PRESS Directive call to continue the attack;

mutual support will be maintained.
Supportive role will be assumed by the

speaker.

PRINT (Type) Active NCTR reply.

PUMP A briefed maneuver to minimize

closure on the threat or geographical boundary with the intent to re-engage. Will be used to initiate a Grinder

tactic.

PURE Informative call indicating pure

pursuit is being used or directive to go

pure pursuit.

PUSH (Channel) Go to designated frequency; no

acknowledgment required.

PUSHING Departing designated point.

RANGE* A picture label describing two

GROUPs separated in distance along

the same line of bearing.

RAYGUN

(Position/Heading/

Altitude)

Indicating a radar lock-on to unknown aircraft. A request for a "BUDDY SPIKE" reply from friendly aircraft

meeting these parameters.

REPORTED Information provided is derived from

an off-board source (information).

RESET Proceed to a pre-briefed position or AO.

RESTAKE Request for JSTARS to drive a new

STAKE at the target centroid reported with direction of travel and elevation.

Initiated by aircrew.

RESUME Resume last formation/route/mission

ordered.

RETROGRADE Directive/informative call to/from

HVAA to withdraw from station in response to a threat, continue mission as able, may RESET if threat is

as able, may keset it u

negated.

RIDER A BOGEY that is conforming to safe

passage routing, airspeed, or altitude

procedures.

RIFLE Friendly air-to-surface missile launch.

RIPPLE Two or more munitions released or

fired in close succession.

ROGER Indicates the receipt of radio

transmission; does not indicate

compliance or reaction.

ROLEX (+/- Time) Time line adjustment in minutes

always referenced from original preplanned mission execution time. Plus means later; minus means earlier.

ROPE Circling an IR pointer around an

aircraft to help the aircraft identify the

friendly ground position.

ROTATOR JSTARS MTI returns that signifies a

high probability of a rotating antenna.

SADDLED Informative call from wingman or

element indicating the return to

briefed formation position.

SAM (direction) Visual acquisition of a SAM in flight or

a SAM launch, should include position.

SANDWICHED Aircraft or element is between

opposing aircraft or elements.

SAUNTER Fly at best endurance.

SCHLEM Training term for simulated high off

boresight IR missile launch. Not assessable for simulated kill/kill

removal.

SCRAM (direction) Directive/informative call to egress for

defensive or survival reasons, no further HVAA mission support is

expected.

SCRAMBLE Takeoff as quickly as possible.

SCRUB A low, slow airborne target.

SCUD Any threat TBM.

SEPARATE(ING) Leaving a specific engagement; may or

may not reenter.

SEPARATION Request for separation between two

groups. Response will include the follow-on group's separation, altitude,

and fill-ins.

SHACKLE One weave, a single crossing of flight

paths; maneuver to adjust or regain

formation parameters.

SHADOW Follow indicated target.

SHIFT (direction) Directive call to shift laser

illumination.

SHOOTER Aircraft/unit designated to employ

ordnance.

SHOPPING An aircraft request to JSTARS for a

target.

SHORT SKATE (USAF) Informative or directive call to

execute launch-and-leave tactics and

be out no later than MAR/DR.

SHOT (Surface to Surface) Informative call

indicating round(s) has(ve) been fired.

SHOTGUN Briefed weapons state at which

separation/bugout should begin.

(system) SICK System indicated is degraded/partially

operative.

SIDE-SIDE (USAF) Fighter term depicting a

radar-apparent description of two or

more contacts within a group

separated in azimuth.

(system) SILENT

(time)

System will be unavailable for time

indicated.

SINGER Informative call of RWR indication of

(type/direction) SAM launch.

SKATE Informative or directive call to execute

launch-and-leave tactics.

SKINNY Current survivor coordinates.

SKIP IT Veto of fighter COMMIT, usually

followed with further directions.

SKOSH Aircraft is out of/or unable to employ

active radar missiles.

SKUNK A radar or visual maritime surface

contact whose identity is unknown.

SLAPSHOT Directive call for an aircraft to

(type/bearing) immediately employ a best available HARM against a specified threat at

the specified.

SLICE/SLICEBACK

(left/right)

Directive call to perform a high-G descending turn in the stated

direction, usually 180 degree turn.

SLIDE Directive/informative call to/from

HVAA to continue present mission while flowing from station in response to perceived threat, implies intent to

RESET.

SLOW* Contact with ground speed of less than

300 knots.

SMASH (on/off) Directive call to turn on/off anti-

collision lights.

SMOKE Smoke marker used to mark a

position.

SNAKE Directive call to oscillate an IR pointer

about a target.

SNAP (USAF) Fighter request for immediate

BRAA call (with appropriate fill-ins) to the group described. Indicates fighter

intent to intercept/join.

SNAPLOCK (BRAA) Indicates fighter has obtained a radar

contact inside briefed threat range with beam, flank, or hot/head aspect.

SNIFF (type) Passive sensor indication of a radar

emitter.

SNIPER (type, location [range Bearing])

Directive call for an aircraft to employ a range-known HARM against a specified threat at the specified

location.

SNOOZE Directive or informative call indicating

initiation of EMCON procedures.

Opposite of ALARM.

SORT 1. Directive call to assign responsibility

within a group; criteria can be met visually, electronically (radar), or both. 2. (w/TAD, TIDS, etc) Inter-flight directive to target via information displayed on data link system.

SORTED Sort responsibility within a group has

been met.

SOUR (mode) Invalid/no response to an

administrative IFF/SIF check.

Opposite of SWEET.

SPADES An interrogated group/radar contact

which lacks all of the ATO (or

equivalent) IFF/SIF modes and codes

required for the ID criteria.

SPARKLE 1. Target marking by IR pointer.

2. Target marking by gunship/ FAC-A

using incendiary rounds.

SPIKE(D) (direction) RWR indication of an AI threat in

track or launch.

SPIN Directive or informative call to execute

a timing/spacing maneuver.

SPITTER(direction) An aircraft that has departed from the

engagement or is departing the engaged fighter's targeting

responsibility.

SPLASH(ED) 1. (A/A) Target destroyed.

2. (A/S) Weapons impact.

3. (S/S) Informative call to observer or spotter five seconds prior to estimated

time of impact.

SPLIT Informative/directive call that flight

member is leaving formation to pursue a separate attack; VISUAL may not be

maintained.

SPOOFING Informative call that voice deception is

being employed.

SPOT* Acquisition of laser designation.

SQUAWK Operate IFF/SIF as indicated or (mode/Code) IFF/SIF is operating as indicated.

SQUAWKING An informative/descriptive call (Mode #) denoting a BOGEY is responding

denoting a BOGEY is responding with an IFF/SIF mode or code other than

that prescribed by the ATO/identification criteria.

STACK Two or more contacts or formations

with an altitude separation in relation

to each other.

STAKE JSTARS reference point for A/S

targeting operations.

STATUS 1. Request for an individual's tactical

situation.

2. (Group) Request for a full positional update in digital bullseye format on

the specified group.

STEADY Directive call to stop oscillation of IR

pointer.

STERN Request for, or directive to, intercept

using STERN geometry.

STINGER Three-ship inner group formation with

two lead contacts line abreast and the

single in trail.

STOP Stop IR illumination of a target.

STRANGER Unidentified traffic that is not a

participant with the action in progress.

STRANGLE () Turn off equipment indicated.

STRIPPED Informative call that aircraft is out of

prebriefed formation.

STROBE(S)

(bearing)

Radar indication(s) of noise jamming.

SUNRISE Informative call that C2 radar

functions are available. Opposite of

MIDNIGHT.

SUNSHINE Directive or informative call indicating

illumination of target is being

conducted with artificial illumination.

SWEET Valid response to an administrative

IFF/SIF check request. Opposite of

SOUR.

SWITCHED Indicates an attacker is changing from

one aircraft to another.

TAG (System,

location)

Response to an emitter ambiguity

resolution request (COLOR).

TALLY Sighting of a target, non-friendly

aircraft, or enemy position. Opposite

of NO JOY.

TARGET 1. Directive call to assign group

responsibility.

2. (w/TAD/TIDS, etc) Inter-flight directive to target via information displayed on data link system.

TARGETED Informative call that GROUP

responsibility has been met.

TEN SECONDS Directive to terminal controller to

standby for LASER ON call in approximately 10 seconds.

TERMINATE 1. Stop laser illumination of a target.

2. In training, cease local engagement without affecting the overall exercise.

THREAT(direction) Untargeted HOSTILE/BANDIT/

BOGEY is within a briefed range of a

friendly aircraft.

THROTTLES Reminder to set throttles appropriately

considering the IR threat and desired

energy state.

THUNDER Informative call one minute prior to

A/S weapons impact.

TIED Positive radar contact with element or

aircraft.

TIGER Enough fuel and ordnance to accept a

commitment.

TIMBER Air control NPG of Link 16/TADIL J.

TOGGLE Execute a briefed change of an avionics

setting.

TOY HTS pods.

TRACK (cardinal

direction)

Group/contact's direction of flight.

TRASHED Informative call that missile has been

defeated.

TRESPASS (system,

position)

The addressed flight is entering the threat SAM ring of a specific (system)

at the stated location.

TUMBLEWEED Indicates limited SA, NO JOY, BLIND

and is a request for information.

UNABLE Cannot comply as requested or

directed.

UNIFORM UHF/AM radio.

VACANT Ground equipment not present at

tasked target location. Opposite of

OCCUPIED.

VAMPIRE Hostile anti-ship missile.

VERY FAST Target speed greater than 900 knots/

1.5 Mach ground speed.

VERY HIGH* Target above 40,000 ft MSL.

VIC A picture label describing three

> GROUPs with a single group closest in range and two trail groups separated

in azimuth.

VICTOR VHF/AM radio.

VISUAL. Sighting of a friendly aircraft or

ground position. Opposite of BLIND.

WALL A picture label describing three or

more GROUPs separated primarily in

azimuth.

WARNING (color) Hostile attack is:

> Imminent or in progress. RED

YELLOW Probable.

WHITE Improbable (all clear).

WEAPONS () Fire only:

> At targets not identified as friendly FREE

> > IAW current ROE.

At targets positively identified as TIGHT

hostile IAW current ROE.

In self-defense or in response to a HOLD* (USAF,

USA.USMC)/ formal order.

SAFE* (USN)

NOTE: USN/NATO use "WEAPONS SAFE" to avoid confusion with the phrase "HOLD FIRE."

WEDGE Three-ship inner group formation with

a single contact closest in range and two trail contacts line abreast.

WEEDS Indicates that aircraft are operating

close to the surface.

WEIGHTED

(Cardinal Direction)

(USN/USMC) Descriptive term used for a multiple GROUP formation

(WALL, LADDER, VIC,

CHAMPAGNE) that is offset in one

direction.

(system) WELL

System indicated is fully operative.

WHAT LUCK

Request for results of missions or

tasks.

WHAT STATE

(Item)

Request for amount of fuel and

missiles remaining. Ammunition and oxygen are reported only when specifically requested or critical. (Active) = number of active radar

missiles remaining.

(Radar) = number of semi-active radar

missiles remaining.

(Heat) = number of IR missiles

remaining.

(Fuel) = pounds of fuel or time

remaining.

WILCO

Will comply with received instructions.

WIDE

Descriptive term used to indicate the separation between the farthest GROUPs in azimuth in a relative formation, use to describe a WALL, VIC, CHAMPAGNE, or BOX.

WINCHESTER

No ordnance remaining.

WINGS LEVEL

Informative call from aircraft to FAC reporting rolled-out on final attack

heading.

WORDS Directive or interrogative call

regarding further information or directives pertinent to the mission.

WORKING 1. (system w/location) Platform

gathering EOB on a designated

emitter.

2. Platform executing EID on a specific aircraft/group to obtain identification necessary for BVR

employment.

YARDSTICK Directive to use A/A TACAN for

ranging.

ZAP Request for data link information.

* Meaning may vary from NATO code word.